



Activity Guide

Scottsbluff
April 28 & April 29, 2015

January 26, 2015

Dear Educators,



On behalf of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, you are invited to attend the annual Outdoor Discovery Program on either **Tuesday, April 28 or Wednesday, April 29** from **9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.** at Trails West YMCA Camp in Scottsbluff. The free event is designed for fifth, sixth and seventh grade students.

We offer a diverse set of hands-on activities and demonstrations that make the Outdoor Discovery Program a memorable experience! We strive to have youth take their first steps into the outdoors or expand their current level of participation. This is a great opportunity to endorse physical outdoor activities before summer break. In addition, presentations will incorporate state academic standards, relating classroom concepts to real life experience. The Outdoor Discovery Program strives to achieve the following objectives.

Objectives:

- Provide **hands-on** programs so all youth, novice or experienced, have the opportunity to explore new outdoor activities, recreational possibilities and learn new outdoor skills.
- Enhance their **knowledge and ethical understanding** of wildlife and the outdoor atmosphere.
- Encourage **health and wellness** to students by promoting active outdoor lifestyles.
- Correlate activities with **Nebraska State Standards** in the areas of science, math, history, reading, and writing.
- Engage students in **fun interactive** activities in the areas of wildlife/habitat management, natural resource use, Nebraska History, shooting sports, hunting skills, aquatic knowledge and fishing skills, and camping and recreation.

ACTIVITY SPECIFICS: Students will be organized by classroom; teachers and chaperones will accompany all student groups. There will be 15 minutes between each session for a break and to travel to the next activity. The day consists of five – 40 minutes sessions. **Two sessions will be completed prior to lunch and three following lunch.**

REGISTRATION: Teachers may begin registering starting **February 12 at 7:00 a.m. MDT**. This process will allow teachers to select all five activities. Registration is based on first come first serve. Please receive administrative and parent approval of your activity list prior to registering. Registration instructions will only be sent to schools that have previously attended. Contact Julia Plugge if this will be your first year to the program.

Visit the website for additional information www.outdoornebraska.ne.gov/odp

If you have any questions, please contact:

Julia Plugge
(402) 471-6009
julia.plugge@nebraska.gov

Sincerely,

Julia Plugge
Event Coordinator & Outdoor Education Specialist
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

2015 Scholastic Student Activities

Read before registering

Activities are subject to change as a result of low registration or last minute cancelations. If this occurs, you may be placed in an activity due to limited availability. Teachers will be notified of any changes following registration.

After registration is completed, all activities changes must be made within two weeks of the event. Due to the nature of the event it is difficult to make last minute changes.

If your students attended last year, please do not register them for the same activities two years in a row. We want students to experience different skill opportunities.

Please follow the limit per activity area. As an example a class can only do two "Fishing Experience" activities. If a class registers over the limit, they will be assigned to an activity still available at the end of registration.

"Fishy Experience" Activities

(A class is limited to two activities in this category. May not take Fly Fishing and Fishing Basics)

Fishing Basics

Grades: All

Fishing is an easy and fun activity that anyone can do with some basic equipment. Students will get to do catch and release fishing using closed-face reels, bobbers, hooks, worms, or corn to catch fish. Instructions and support will be available for students who need it.

PE Literacy:

5.1.1; 5.5.1

Fly Fishing and Fly Tying

Grades: 5

Students will learn how to case a fly rod and learn about the types of flies that are used in fly fishing. This activity also covers types of aquatic insects that fish eat and how the tied flies mimic them to attract fish.

Science Standard

8.4.4

PE Literacy

5.1.1; 5.5.1

Fish Anatomy and Artworks

Grades: All

Fish species are all different; learn how to identify several fish species by looking at their external anatomy and adaptations. Students will also make fish artwork with real or replica fish. Newsprint will be used for the artwork but students are encouraged to bring t-shirts, handkerchiefs or fabric if they can.

Science Standard

5.3.1; 5.3.1.b

Fish, Turtles and Other Aquatic Organisms

Grades: All

A variety of live fish, turtles, amphibians and other aquatic organisms commonly found in Nebraska will be on display. Students will be taught basic identification characteristics of the different organisms including general external anatomy features. Brief life histories will be taught to give students a better understanding of the species on display. Students will be taught safe handling practices and will be encouraged to touch and handle the organisms on display.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 5.3.1.b

“Archery” Activities

(A class is limited to one activity in this category)

National Archery in the Schools Program

Grades: All

Learn and participate in the National Archery in the Schools Program, identifying the basic concepts of the many shooting sports found in Nebraska such as the Junior Olympic Archery Development curriculum. Students will participate in Junior Olympic Target-Style Archery.

Science Standards: 5.2.2; 8.2.2

PE Skill: 5.1.2

Responsible Behavior: 5.5.1

3-D Archery

Grades: All

Learn the historical developments of one of the most useful tools of our time, the bow and arrow. Learn the skills necessary to hunt wild game with this unique tool. Students will use archery equipment to perform and analyze experiments.

History Standards: 8.1.5

Science Standards: 5.2.2; 8.2.2

PE Literacy: 5.1.2; 5.5.1

“Shooting” Activities

(A class is limited to one activity in this category)

Air Rifles

Grades: All

Learn basic marksmanship and safety while participating in a structured air gun shooting activity. Learn shooting sports opportunities available in Nebraska including the Nebraska 4H Shooting Sports Programs in the area and how parents can get their children involved. The meaning of velocity and energy and how it relates to shooting will be discussed, along with a challenge activity converting units of measurement.

Math Standards: 8.3.2

Heath Education Frameworks Principle: 3.1; 3.3; 3.5; 3.6

The Ancient Art of the Atlatl

Grades: All

Students will learn how many ancient cultures used this spear thrower to have an advantage over the large prey they were hunting. Students will get to use an atlatl and demonstrate how it increases the velocity of the spear.

PE Skills: 5.1.2; 5.2.1; 5.5.1; 8.1.1

Social Studies/History Standards: 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 4.2, 4.4, 8.1.1, 8.2.1

“Go Wild with Wildlife” Activities

(A class is limited to three activities in this category)

Small and Big Game of Nebraska

Grades: All

Discover exciting secrets of big and small game. Explore habitat preferences on several big game species of Nebraska including deer, elk, pronghorn, and bighorn sheep. Uncover the types of equipment used for big game hunting; discuss hunter safety, hunting laws, proper gear and attire. Students will even get to explore research methods for game species!

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 8.3.4

Birding Exploration

Grades: All

Explore the famous birding trail of western Nebraska and search for the mysterious bird species of the area. Students will learn how to use binoculars and develop a skill set that can be enjoyed and utilized at any age.

Science Standards:

5.3.1

Snakes of the World

Grades: All

Slither on over and explore different reptiles from around the world. Students learn first-hand about the snakes including life history, adaptations, form and function, as well as services snakes provide to humans and predator/prey relationships. Live snakes will be met during this activity.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 5.3.2; 8.3.1.e

The Voice

Presented by: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Grades: All

The Voice, the strongest “callers” in Nebraska compete with help from Nebraska Game and Park’s coaches. Students will learn about various game calls, why we call in wild game, and how to use them in a fun and mildly competitive atmosphere. This interactive and exciting activity will combine elements from the popular TV show The Voice. Will your call make it to the next knockout round.

Science Standards:

5.3.1.e

CSI (Critter Scene Investigation)

Grades: 5 & 6

Students will look for and identify clues left behind by wildlife and then investigate in teams to unravel the mystery of what happened at the critter scene.

Science Standards:

5.3.3; 5.3.4; 8.1.1; 8.1.2; 8.3.3; 8.3.4

Language Arts Standards:

4.1.5; 4.3.1; 4.3.2; 5.1.5; 5.3.1; 5.3.2; 6.1.5;
6.3.1; 6.3.2; 7.1.5; 7.3.1; 7.3.2

Math Standards:

4.2.5; 5.2.5; 6.2.5

“Outdoor Recreation” Activities

(A class is limited to three activities in this category)

Disc Golf

Grades: All

Students will be active & physical as they try their hand at disc golf.

PE Skill:

5.1.2; 8.2.3

Climbing Wall

Grades: All

Experience the thrill of climbing a 30ft tall outdoor climbing wall on the banks of the North Platte River.

PE Skill:

5.1.2; 5.1.4; 8.2.2

Camping Nebraska's State Parks System

Grades: All

Students will learn about Nebraska's State Park System. We will discuss how the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is able to use the unique natural resources of each region to develop state parks and provide programming based on the natural offerings. In addition, students will participate in a hands-on activity to set up and take down a tent. Discussion will take place on how to set up a safe and enjoyable campsite, campfire skills and different types of camping opportunities. Students will also play and learn fun campground games.

PE Skill: 5.1.2

Go take a Hike

Grades: All

Hiking is a great outdoor physical activity. As a team, students will pack a backpack for hike, learning the necessary "pack-it items". They will also learn how to properly pack the bag distributing items for a comfortable hike.

PE Skill: 5.3.1

Geocaching: Find the Fun

Grades: All

Students will go on a scavenger hunt using GPS units to discover the basic needs of some Nebraska wildlife species. The activity will include learning about GPS and Geocaching.

Science Standards: 5.1.1; 8.1.1

PE Skills: 5.3.1; 5.5.2; 8.3.2; 8.4.3; 8.5.1

Boating Safety and Kayaking

Grades: 4&5

Introduce students to a basic easy to use kayak. Participate in a safety talk emphasizing the importance and proper wear of life jackets. Students will learn the safe use of kayaks, basic paddle strokes, and safe kayak loading and unloading. [Students may get wet.](#)

Science Standards: 5.2.2.b; 8.2.c

PE Skill: 5.1.3; 5.4.2

"Miscellaneous" Activities

No Limit

Buggy Businesses

Grades: All

Behold! Bugs can be our buddies as they benefit us in many ways. Students will become scientists to learn what kind of work insects do for us and our habitats. Concepts will be conveyed through collection, direct observation, hypothesis and environmental education games.

Science Standards: 8.1.1.e; 8.1.1.f

Adventures in Stormwater

Grades: All

Learn about the greatest threat to our nations waters in this exciting activity. Students will learn the causes of water pollution as well as what they can do to prevent it. They will also have an opportunity to observe a riparian habitat and consider how pollution affects it.

Science Standards: 8.3.3.g; 8.4.2.g

Outdoor Cooking

Grades: All

Learn several different ways to cook in the great outdoors. Students will also learn how to cook safely and how to prevent food-borne illnesses when camping or just going to the local park. Students will walk away with an outdoor cooking checklist, easy to prepare recipes, safe food preparation knowledge and a snack or two.

Outdoor Photography

Grades: All

Discover the outdoors from a camera's point of view. Learn to frame, focus and understand your surroundings to create a fabulous photo. Digital cameras will be provided to use for the event, and photos will be uploaded to the Internet for viewing. Students will be challenged to a photo scavenger hunt!